



## Choose Environmental Excellence

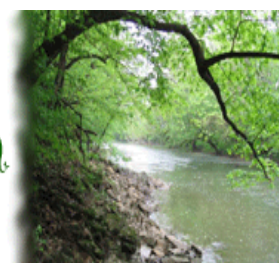
PO Box 8368  
Springfield, MO 65802

[www.OzarksEnvironment.com](http://www.OzarksEnvironment.com)

[www.springfieldmo.gov/showmeyards](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/showmeyards)

[www.springfieldmo.gov/cee](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/cee)

OzarksEnvironment.com



[www.OzarksEnvironment.com](http://www.OzarksEnvironment.com)

This website includes links to area agencies, clubs, and organizations offering environmental and conservation educational resources.

Postings for this website includes events, volunteer opportunities, and much, much more.

To post your organization's next event, e-mail

[blucks@springfieldmo.gov](mailto:blucks@springfieldmo.gov)



### Springfield-Greene County Choose Environmental Excellence Steering Committee

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City of Springfield  
Solid Waste Mgt. Division  
**Kevin Gipson**  
Springfield/Greene County  
Health Department  
**Marie Steinwachs**  
University of Missouri  
Outreach and Extension  
**Ryan Mooney**  
Springfield Area  
Chamber of Commerce  
**Terry Whaley**  
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The Discovery Center  
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**Rena Bass**  
**Lynn Feagan**

# Environmental Excellence

VOLUME 11; NO. 2 FALL 2010



## America Recycles Day, 2010

America Recycles Day was celebrated at the Discovery Center of Springfield on Saturday, November 13, 2010. Since 1997, communities across the United States have come together to celebrate and promote recycling activities on or about November 15<sup>th</sup> each year.

***“More than a celebration, it’s the only nationally recognized day dedicated to promoting recycling programs. One day to inform and educate. One day to get our neighbors, friends and community leaders excited about what can be accomplished when we all work together. One day to make recycling bigger and better 365 days a year.”—Keep America Beautiful***

The City of Springfield Solid Waste Management Division, along with Greenway Recycling, Nestle Purina PetCare, and Commercial Metals Recycling sponsored the full day celebration. The event gave individuals the opportunity to recycle their paper, metals and plastics at the Discovery Center that day.

A variety of extra activities were also available. John Bertles, with Bash the Trash, offered fun and exciting workshops on making musical instruments from recycled materials. The Discovery Center offered individuals the opportunity to build a car from recycled materials and then race it on the track in EnergyExchange. A scavenger hunt was included to find out about the green features in Discovery Center by their Environmental Pathway, a self-guided scavenger hunt. And finally, community recycling representatives were available with educational displays and materials for individuals to find out more about recycling in our community.



**Left:**  
John  
Bertles  
during the  
workshop



**Right:**  
Child  
making a  
“recycled”  
instrument

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P.O. Box 8368—Springfield—MO—65801—[www.OzarksEnvironment.com](http://www.OzarksEnvironment.com)



## James River Basin Partnership (JRBP) Update



**New Executive Director** - The James River Basin Partnership has acquired a new Executive Director. Joe Pitts began work as the Executive Director effective on March 1, 2010. Joe has 20 years experience with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in which a major portion of that time involved serving in the Environmental Education Unit where he was the State Coordinator for Project WET (Water Education for Teachers).

Joe served also as an environmental specialist in the Water Pollution Control Program Enforcement Section where he coordinated and conducted enforcement actions against entities in violation of the state's clean water law. Most recently Joe served in the Water Protection Program Financial Assistance Center as a Project Coordinator in the State Grant and Loan Unit. This work involved helping to provide loans and grants to Missouri communities for the construction of wastewater collection and treatment systems. He was also the Financial Assistance Center contact person for onsite sewage system issues.

In addition to the experience listed above Joe also has worked as a teacher in the public schools and at the college level. Through Missouri State University Joe holds a B.S. Degree in Wildlife Conservation and Management, an M.S. Degree in Biology and Lifetime Teaching Certification in biology and general science for grades 7-12.

**Riparian Buffer Protection** - In 2010 the JRBP has implemented a riparian buffer protection program that provides for the establishment of donated riparian easements on private property. The goal of the project is to establish 20 miles of a minimum 100ft. buffer along the James River, Finley River and Pearson Creek. For more information about the riparian easement process please feel free to contact the James River Basin Partnership at 417-836-8878.

JRBP provided soil test and a Four Year Nutrient Management Plan to 46 residents of the James River Basin. One of the goals for this project is to reduce nutrient runoff from over fertilizing inner-city and suburban areas. Over 54% of the plans did not require any additional Phosphorus.

Continue next column....

**Septic Tank Maintenance Program** – JRBP provided over 200 initial “Septic Tank Maintenance” educational visits to residents of the basin and hosted/co-hosted four Septic Maintenance workshops for installers and homeowners. A “septic system and maintenance” video was produced that can be viewed on line at [www.jamesriverbasin.com](http://www.jamesriverbasin.com). Cost-Share opportunities consist of reimbursing dollars to participants who pump their septic tanks and also to participants who replace failing septic systems in the Lower James River Basin.

**Full-Time AmeriCorps Volunteer** - Kellie Herman is excited to begin her second year of volunteering for the partnership. She enjoys sharing her enthusiasm for watershed protection with others and hopes to create awareness of responsible water use practices within the community. She comes to us via Missouri River Community Network (MRCN) who administers the Missouri Clean Water AmeriCorps program (MCWA).

Kellie joins 13 other AmeriCorps members who are placed in communities throughout the state to work with local sponsoring watershed non-profit organizations in providing support, outreach, education, training, and mentoring to area citizens. The program empowers local citizens to do projects that work to improve and protect Missouri streams and rivers. Activities include, but are not limited to: litter pickups, water quality monitoring, educational projects, invasive species removal, tree plantings, storm drain stenciling, and the promotion and constructing of rain gardens and rain barrels. James River Basin Partnership enjoys a diversity of staff members and is excited to participate in the AmeriCorps program.

**Stormwater Activities** - There is still time to participate in the rain barrel rebate and the 50 for 50 rain garden kit programs. All Greene County residents can receive the rain barrel rebate and any resident of the James River Basin can take advantage of 50 for 50 rain garden program.

A large stormwater reduction project is occurring at Hurley Baptist church. JRBP partnered with the church, Stone County Soil and Water, South Missouri Water Quality Project office within the Christian County USDA service center and Smiling Sun, LLC to design the project. The James River Basin Partnership, through a 319 Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant from the Department of Natural Resources, is assisting in the funding of this project. The design consists of 7 large rain gardens with approximately 1700 native plants. The plan will stop the major erosion that was occurring due to the 9,000 gallons of water that would pour off the roof of their new building with a 1 inch rain as well as water that was entering the site from adjacent land.

For more information, log onto:

[www.jamesriverbasin.com](http://www.jamesriverbasin.com)



**Paint Recycling Tip...**Because latex (water-based) paint can be disposed of safely in the trash if the following procedures are in place, we encourage residents to use the following alternative.

*Soak up paint by mixing it with an absorbent material (ex. cat litter) or a commercially prepared absorbent (ex. waste paint hardener) available at hardware/home improvement stores. Place the empty and completely dry paint can in your trash to be picked up by your waste hauler. Lids must be removed for the hauler's inspection.*

**Did you know...**Automotive batteries, button batteries, antifreeze, motor oil and more can be recycled through various local businesses. Check out “A Guide to Recycling in Springfield”.

For more information on recycling household chemicals, or to download a copy of the “Guide to Recycling in Springfield”, log onto:

[www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling)  
[www.OzarksEnvironment.com](http://www.OzarksEnvironment.com)



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## Leaf Disposal Update



Beginning November 7th and ending December 5<sup>th</sup>, the City of Springfield's Yardwaste Recycling Center and Lone Pine Recycling Center will be open on Sundays from 1pm-5pm.

Winter hours for the Yardwaste Recycling Center and the Lone Pine and Franklin Avenue Recycling Centers will begin Tuesday, November 9, 2010 (the first Tuesday after the end of Daylight Savings Time). These facilities will be open to accept yardwaste and brush from 8am – 5pm., Tuesday – Saturday, with the exception of the Sundays noted above. They are closed on Mondays.

Winter loading hours for mulch and compost products, which are available for purchase at the Yardwaste Recycling Center, will be from 9am – 4pm, Tuesday – Saturday, and from 1pm – 4pm on the Sundays mentioned above. Please call the Recycling Hotline at 864-1904 for current availability of these products.

Residents are reminded that City ordinance prohibits dumping of leaves and yardwaste into city streets, ditches, waterways, etc. Several alternatives are available for environmentally responsible leaf disposal: mulching leaves, proper backyard composting, and using the City's Yardwaste Recycling Center (YRC) facilities and services.

For more information about the City's yardwaste recycling services, including hours of operation, materials and quantities accepted, fees/donations, please call the City of Springfield's Recycling Hotline at 864-1904 or visit the City Web site below. Information also is available on backyard composting, mulching and use of compost and mulching materials.

[www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling).

## Fall Checklist

Start a Compost Pile; Clean out the Garage.  
Download your very own Fall Checklist at:

[www.OzarksEnvironment.com](http://www.OzarksEnvironment.com)

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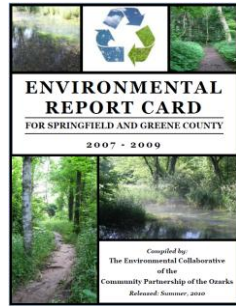


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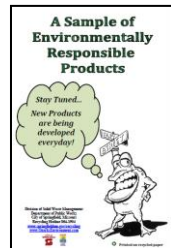
The following is now available for download on:  
[www.OzarksEnvironment.com](http://www.OzarksEnvironment.com)

## 2007 – 2009 Environmental Report Card for Springfield and Greene County



This Environmental Report Card, compiled by the Environmental Collaborative of the Community Partnership of the Ozarks, represents a review of the period 2007-2009. Recommendations from the original “State of the Environment Report” are included at the beginning of each status report. The original “State of the Environment in Springfield/Greene County” recommendations and previous Environmental Report Cards can also be found on the website.

## A Sample of Environmentally Responsible Products



This handout gives individuals a look into items available for purchase that have been manufactured from recycled materials and/or environmental benefits. Items include: building materials, marketing supplies, clothing, pest control and many more.

## Preparing your Garden for Winter Checklist

This checklist will help you to prepare your garden for the upcoming cold winter months. The checklist will cover many items from house plants to water hoses.

Continue next column....

## Dentists Go Green

Dentists certified by Choose Environmental Excellence have completed a training course in best management practices (BMPs) for dental amalgam, which contains small amounts of mercury. Log on to the website for a complete listing.

## 2010 - 2011 Community Resource Guide

The Community Resource Guide, featuring field trip and in-classroom resources, compiled by the Interpreters Coalition of Springfield/Greene County, is now available for download.

## 2010-2011 Environmental/Conservation Education Directory

The Environmental/Conservation Education Directory, completed this past August after the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental/Conservation Education Summit, is now available for download.

## Sixth Annual Environmental/Conservation Education Summit Held August 11



The sixth Annual Environmental/Conservation Education Summit was held at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center on August 11. Thirty-nine delegates representing more than thirty entities attended the half-day session.

The Summit is sponsored by Springfield/Greene County Choose Environmental Excellence and facilitated by CEE Project Coordinator Barbara Lucks.

Each organization represented had an opportunity to give updates of their projects and activities. As with previous Summits, attendees took advantage of the meeting to seek out partners for upcoming events, trade wish lists and identify projects/programs that lend themselves to collaborate efforts.

For more information, the proceedings of the Summit are now available on [www.OzarksEnvironment.com](http://www.OzarksEnvironment.com)



## It's Grant Time Again!



When the leaves start to fall, it must be time for ...recycling grants? Absolutely! The 2011 grant cycle for Solid Waste District “O” is underway. Applications for District Grants designed to provide or enhance recycling and/or waste reduction services and programs are now being accepted. Projects eligible for funding must:

1. Be located within the five-county service region—Christian, Dallas, Greene, Polk, and Webster.
2. Provide safe, reliable, and cost effective (efficient/affordable) recycling and/or waste reduction services/programs.
3. Meet all other requirements from Solid Waste Management District “O” and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Solid Waste Management Program as outlined in the application package.

Applications will be accepted until noon through January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011. For more information, contact:

Rhonda Gulley-Associate District Planner  
417-868-4197

**Or write to:**

Solid Waste Management District “O”  
Attn: 2011 Grant Application Request  
940 Boonville Ave - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
Springfield, MO 65802

**Note: Applications should be submitted to this same address and will NOT be accepted via fax or e-mail.**



- ♻ Close the loop – purchase items made from recycled materials
- ♻ Buy local – reduces fuel consumption, improves air quality and supports your local community
- ♻ Reduce paper and ink – print double-sided
- ♻ Look for Energy Star when purchasing appliances and other items
- ♻ Learn to compost – your plants will love you for it
- ♻ Use re-useable totes and bags at the grocery store – saves money and reduces plastics
- ♻ Donate re-usable household items to local charities
- ♻ Use rechargeable batteries – the investment is worth it

## Greene County Resource Management Update



In 2010, the Environmental Section saw an increase in requests for forming neighborhood sewer districts. This spring, sewer was extended to complete a 55-home sewer district; a second sewer district with 31 homes is ready to begin the construction phase; and three additional sewer districts, totaling 114 homes, were recently approved by the County Commission and will soon begin the engineering phase.

In Building Regulations, single family dwelling building permits were up 37% at the end of October 2010 compared to the same timeframe for 2009. The estimated year-to-date cost of all new construction is: \$67,079,427.00.

The USGS (U.S. Geological Survey) Groundwater Study was completed in November. This study is a joint agency effort which will depict changes in the Ozark aquifer since the 1989 study. A groundwater model included in this study will assist in predicting future water use scenarios through the year 2030.

In a joint agreement between the County, City of Springfield, and the USGS, LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data was acquired for the purpose of assisting in watershed master planning, infrastructure assessment and design, sinkhole studies, plus numerous other uses. This data will be available for use in the spring of 2011.

Working together with the local NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) office, debris related to the ice storm in 2007 and subsequent flooding in 2008 was removed from a site along Pearson Creek. A similar cleanup for a section of Wilson Creek is scheduled for late 2010 or early 2011.

For more information, contact  
Vanessa Brandon, Environmental Planner 868-4147  
Or log onto:

[www.greenecountymo.org/resource\\_management](http://www.greenecountymo.org/resource_management)



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## City of Springfield Storm Water Services Update



**Parks Waterways Projects Underway** - The Fassnight Park Waterway Improvements Project is well underway with historic rock wall reconstruction, new bridges, a greenway trail and other features that address water quality and flood control in Fassnight Creek. The new Campbell bridge has been completed and new bridges at Main and Grant Avenues are under construction. A groundbreaking event was held November 5, 2010, for the Sequiota Park Lake & Waterway Improvements Project. This project will reconstruct the Galloway Creek channel, clean and enhance the lake to improve water quality and functionality, upgrade deteriorating bridges, and provide an additional parking lot constructed with pervious concrete. The groundbreaking for waterway improvements at Dickerson Park Zoo was held in December. Projects are also planned for Doling Park and Close Park. These projects are funded by the 2006 County-wide Parks Lake/Waterway Improvements sales tax.



The new Campbell Avenue bridge at Fassnight Park was designed to match the historic rock walls and structures of the park.

Red clay deposits in the lake at Sequiota Park will be removed as part of the project. The clay deposits are a result of a nearby sinkhole and water main break that occurred about 3 years ago.



For more information and project photos, visit [www.springfieldmo.gov/stormwater](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/stormwater).

## Water Education for Teachers (WET) Update



Project WET has been active in Southwest Missouri in 2010 with a workshop in May held at the Dickerson Park Zoo and in June at the Missouri Department of Conservation office, both in Springfield. This fall, Project WET was part of a 3 Project workshop—Projects WET, WILD and Learning Tree that will be held November 12-14, 2010 on the campus of Missouri State University.

Other projects that Project WET has sponsored or been involved with include writing a lesson plan for high school teachers in cooperation with George Washington Carver National Monument, the Heartland Division of the National Park Service and MSU; an education workshop for those who work with school groups and students; the regional and state Envirothon competition for high school students; and countless student programs with the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks at the Valley Water Mill/Watershed Center area.

If you would like more information about upcoming workshops or Project WET, please contact Erica Cox at [EricaCox@missouristate.edu](mailto:EricaCox@missouristate.edu) or 417-836-4337.



- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
- Spreading a layer of organic mulch around plants retains moisture and saves water, time and money
- If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model.
- Collect the water you use for rinsing fruits and vegetables, then reuse it to water houseplants.



## Holiday Waste Reduction Tips



As the holiday season approaches, statistics show that solid waste (trash) generation skyrockets. The City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division has a number of suggestions to reduce holiday waste.

- Food waste during the period between Halloween and New Years, is the highest of any time during the year.
  - Before you prepare the holiday meals, take a head count and adjust the amount of food accordingly to avoid waste.
  - Holiday cooks are also advised to use extra care to properly dispose of grease generated by large holiday meals so that it doesn't create problems in the City's sewer lines.
  - Be creative with left-overs.
- Holiday cooks are also advised to use extra care to properly dispose of grease generated by large holiday meals so that it doesn't create problems in the City's sewer lines. Never pour grease down the drain. Even if you run hot water down the line, the grease cools and solidifies as it moves through the sewer line. Hot water will not solve the problem!
  - Pour grease into a metal or glass container and place in the trash. You can also line your container by pouring cooled grease into a plastic bag. You may also use a heat-resistant liner.
  - A lid is required on a container holding liquid grease. Containers that contain solid grease do not need a lid.
  - Scrape food and grease from dishes and pans prior to washing. This type of waste also can be placed in the trash.
  - To receive a copy of a brochure on "fat-free sewers", contact: Randy Lyman, Public Works Department, Sanitary Services Division, 864-1921.
- Reduce and reuse wrapping
  - Make the wrapping a part of the gift; for example, wrap a kitchen utensil in a new kitchen towel.
  - When shopping, consolidate purchases into one big bag, rather than getting a new bag at each stop.
  - Decorate brown paper sacks as wrap using rubber stamps, recycled Christmas cards, or drawings.
  - Consider using paper that can easily be recycled, such as old comic sections, old maps, children's art work.
- Save gift bags, boxes, bows and ribbons for reuse next year.
- Recycle wrap and packing materials
  - Paperboard (example: wrapping paper rolls and cardboard) are easily recycled at the City of Springfield's Recycling Centers. Christmas gift wrap also is accepted - no plastic and no foil. Call the Recycling Hotline (864-1904) or visit the City's web site for locations and hours of operation ([www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling)).
  - Styrofoam packing peanuts can be recycled in several locations in Springfield. Call the City's Recycling Hotline (864-1904) or visit the website listed above for information.
- If you're replacing old, used items with new ones, donate clothes and useable household items to local charities.
- Reduce holiday toxics
  - Do not burn wrapping paper - the colored paper contains lead and other heavy metals.
  - Make sure your home is "childproof" when young visitors come: put cleaners and pesticides out of reach; don't leave alcohol, perfume or after-shave under the tree.
  - Do not use imported, decorative candles that emit black smoke - this often indicates the presence of lead in the wick.
  - Bubble lights can contain a toxic liquid; bulbs can cause burns - don't leave young children alone with decorated trees.
  - Mistletoe is highly toxic to children and pets - use artificial rather than the real thing. Other plants with toxic or irritating characteristics include: amaryllis (bulb), balsam, cedar, Christmas cactus, Christmas rose, elderberry, English Ivy, holly, juniper, narcissus (bulb) and several types of lily.
- Reduce litter
  - Make sure your trash is bagged securely so it doesn't blow out of trash-collection vehicles.
  - Did Santa leave you a new computer or other electronic surprise - don't throw the old one in the trash - have it recycled and disposed of properly at the Computer Recycling Center - 866-2588.



More information on recycling, **including Christmas trees**, is available at the City's Recycling Hotline at 864-1904 or on the City Web site: [www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling).



Solid Waste Management Division  
Recycling Hotline  
864-1904



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## Solid Waste Management Secures New Market for Recycled Glass



The City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division of the Public Works Department has secured a new market for the glass collected at the City's Recycling Centers. Ripple Glass, LLC, of Kansas City is now processing the City's glass for use in fiberglass insulation products.

Because of the relatively small number of glass end-users located in the United States, and because of the weight of glass, transporting collected glass to be processed and recycled is expensive and has resulted in many municipalities across the country abandoning their efforts to recycle glass. Springfield has continued to accept glass at the City-operated Recycling Centers at the rate of approximately 375 tons annually.

As a result of the agreement with Ripple Glass, the City will now be able to accept glass, without charge, from surrounding communities, the Center City entertainment area and other businesses as well as continuing the glass recycling at the City's Recycling Centers.

The glass does not have to be separated by color. Labels do not have to be removed. Rinsing the containers is preferable but not required. Glass accepted includes food and beverage containers (bottles).

Glass is one of the items included in the City's Curbside Recycling Program with collection services provided by private haulers. All solid waste haulers licensed to do business in Springfield are required to offer their customers the convenience of curbside recycling. Participation on the part of the customer is voluntary. Solid Waste haulers are required by City ordinance to accept milk jugs and pop bottles (#1 and #2 plastics); newsprint; aluminum and tin/steel cans; and glass beverage containers as part of their curbside programs. WCA, Allied Waste Services and Automated Waste have applied for and been given a waiver by the City that exempts them from the curbside glass requirement due to implementation of their single-stream/commingled recycling programs. Glass can easily become a contaminant due to breakage when it is included in the single-stream/commingled process. All other Springfield waste haulers are still operating under the glass requirement.

Container glass is 100 percent recyclable and can be recycled endlessly. Using recycled glass produces 20 percent less air pollution and 80 percent less water pollution than creating new glass (or fiberglass) from raw materials.

Continue next column....

Recycling just one glass bottle saves enough electricity to power a 100-watt light bulb for four hours. A six-pack of recycled beer bottles produces enough fiberglass insulation to fill a standard wall cavity. Every ton of virgin glass produces 250 tons of mining waste and contributes to the environmental impacts associated with mining.

For information about the City-operated Recycling Centers, call the Recycling Hotline at (417) 864-1904, or go to

[www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling).

## Watershed Center Update



The Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill is well underway! Construction of the main Education Building and Demonstration Parking Lot began in June 2010. A groundbreaking was held on June 4th, 2010. The project will be a LEED Certified Green Building with Gold level as the goal. The 4,200 square foot "green" building includes meeting spaces, rainwater harvesting for flushing toilets and landscape water, a teacher resource center, office facilities, and more. The Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill expects to open in the Spring of 2011. For more information or updates on the Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill, log onto:

[www.watershedcenter.org](http://www.watershedcenter.org)



## Springfield Plateau Master Naturalist Update



The Springfield Plateau Chapter of Master Naturalists has begun another worthwhile endeavor: Educating children about the outdoors. Many of the naturalists went through training this past summer in order to present programs on a number of subjects: Mammals and Furbearers, Insects and Spiders, Birds, Reptiles and Amphibians. Earlier in the year, Master Naturalists also received training in the following program: How Native Americans Used the Bison, which has been taught in a number of venues: schools, scout groups, and even preschools.

If anyone is interested in receiving these programs, contact Jay Barber, [Jay.Barber@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jay.Barber@mdc.mo.gov) and he will connect you with the appropriate person.

For more information on the Missouri Master Naturalists Program, or the Springfield Plateau of the Missouri Master Naturalists, visit



[www.monaturalist.org](http://www.monaturalist.org)  
[www.springfieldmasternaturalist.com](http://www.springfieldmasternaturalist.com)



## Vermicomposting is Back!



The City of Springfield, Solid Waste Management Division is pleased to announce the return of vermicomposting! The "Vermicomposting in Your Classroom" program was developed in order to provide classrooms with the knowledge and materials needed to develop and maintain a vermicomposting system in their classrooms. To date, approximately 150 classrooms have been involved in this program. Exercises using a worm bin and its lively inhabitants touch upon many of the Show-Me Standards for both Performance and Knowledge Standards as well as adapt easily to all learning styles.

For more information about our program, please contact Andee Coble, Education Outreach Specialist at 864-1567 or call our Recycling Hotline at 864-1904.



## Ozarks New Energy Update



Net zero energy homes—Nuclear power plants shipped by rail—The future of mass transit in Missouri—Biochar—Smart grids—Home energy audits—Energy efficiency in Missouri—PACE—Sustainable agriculture—Ammonia as a fuel—The results of a regional green jobs survey. These were only a few of the more than 30 topics covered at the third Ozarks New Energy Conference (ONE 3) Oct. 7-8 in Springfield. ONE seeks to inform the public, community leaders and elected officials about sustainable, renewable and alternative energy options in the Ozarks.

In a tough economic year, the event attracted 22 sponsors and additional exhibitors and more than 500 attendees, including several hundred students from Missouri State University, Drury University, Crowder College and Springfield Catholic High School. The conference also included live energy demonstrations, field trips to three LEED facilities, the Missouri University of Science and Technology solar car and high-mileage vehicles from Aurora and Ozark High Schools.

Now ONE is shifting its attention to field trips for ONE Friend members and special guests and a new round of Energy Cafes at the Farmers Gastropub in Springfield in 2011. A Nov. 13 field trip to MST in Rolla visited its Solar Village, E<sup>3</sup> Commons and renewable energy demonstrations on and off campus.

To become a ONE Friend at one of the membership levels, starting at \$20 for students and seniors, go to [www.ozarksnewenergy.org](http://www.ozarksnewenergy.org).

## New Low Impact Development Manual Now Available

Ozarks Water Watch along with the Community Foundation of the Ozarks recently partnered with the Fay Jones School of Architecture at the University of Arkansas to publish **LID: Low Impact Development, a design manual for urban areas**. This 230 page manual introduces general audiences to designing landscapes for urban stormwater runoff – a primary source of watershed pollution. The goal is to motivate awareness and implementation of LID in a wide cross-section of stakeholders, from property owners to municipal governments that regulate infrastructure development. A 58 page .pdf sample of the manual can be found at: <http://uacdc.uark.edu/> (click on "download the book" above the low impact development box) along with instructions to order a copy for \$30. Ozarks Water Watch does have a limited number of copies available for those individuals active in LID in our area. Contact Nina at 417-739-4100 or [nina@ozarkswaterwatch.org](mailto:nina@ozarkswaterwatch.org).





**Popular CU efficiency programs meet customers' needs** - CU's EnergyWise and WaterWise programs continued to be popular with customers again in 2009 - 2010. In fact, the rebates are so popular that funds for them were depleted prior to the end of the fiscal year. All rebate programs closed early on August 31, with the exception of the Refrigerator & Freezer Recycling program, which is funded separately through a federal grant.

Savings realized in the Electric T&D area helped to keep these programs funded about a month longer than initially anticipated. This extension was a great benefit to customers submitting rebate applications during this time, with the only inconvenience being a delay in having their rebates processed – rather than returned to them.

**Heating and cooling system rebates top the list** - At the end of August, the Energy Management & Conservation department had processed just slightly less rebates and audits than last year, but more than the two previous years combined. The most successful programs have been for ENERGY STAR® rated heating and cooling systems, which provides rebates for higher efficiency units. The combination of the federal tax credit for home energy efficiency improvements, along with the CU rebates, made this upgrade extremely popular.

**Efficiency offers result in real energy, water savings** - Since CU began offering these programs on October 1, 2006, more than 19,500 rebates and audits have been processed. The savings associated with all programs would provide the annual electric consumption of 3,104 homes, the annual natural gas consumption of 1,768 homes, and the annual water consumption of 946 homes. These savings are intended to help delay the need for additional expensive, capacity-related projects further in to the future than they otherwise would be.

Most of CU's EnergyWise and WaterWise programs began again October 1 with about the same level of funding. Programs with high levels of customer participation will be the focus. All program information and applications are available online at

[www.cuenergywise.com](http://www.cuenergywise.com)



## Downtown Glass Recycling Project



Between January 1, 2009, to present, glass collected from downtown entertainment establishments totaled approximately 1,700 container loads, which is the equivalent to 204,000 beer bottles kept out of the landfill! The glass joins the City of Springfield's glass and is processed by Ripple Glass in Kansas City to be manufactured into fiberglass insulation. Currently, 20 downtown businesses participate in our program.

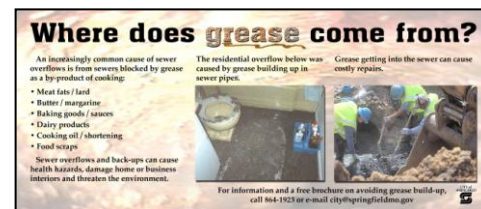
For more information, contact Barb Baker:  
visit: [www.itsalldowntown.com](http://www.itsalldowntown.com)

## City of Springfield Wastewater Treatment Facilities Earn Performance Awards



The City of Springfield has earned two Peak Performance Awards from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) for its wastewater treatment facilities. The Southwest Treatment Plant earned a Gold Peak Performance Award and the Northwest Treatment Plant earned a Silver Peak Performance Award – both achieving compliance with their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits for 2009. The Southwest Treatment Plant has received the Gold Peak Performance Award for four years as of 2009 and if another Gold is received for 2010, they will receive a Platinum for 5 years straight achieving Golds! This would include no permit violations whatsoever; which is very difficult to achieve. On average, more than 39 million gallons of wastewater are collected and treated everyday in Springfield.

For more information, log onto:  
[www.springfieldmo.gov/sanitary](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/sanitary)



### How to Recycle at Special Events

If you are hosting an event—big or small—from an exposition to a board meeting—you can help make it an environmentally responsible event. Recycling bins are available for checkout appropriate for your occasion.

### Preparing for a Successful “Green” Event

To ensure recycling success, mention, in advance literature, that recycling is expected at the event. Also, in any email notices or announcements, reinforce the recycling message.

### Duties of Event Coordinator

The person responsible for planning the event needs to work with the venue staff to let them know of the recycling effort. Identify what types of materials will be recycled. Make arrangements for transporting the collected materials to the recycling center/processor. Small quantities may be transported by your volunteers to nearby City operated recycling sites.

### Assistance Available through Special Event Recycling

- Collection bins for event space
- Plastic liner bags for bins
- Carts to transport materials from collection bins to a larger collection container
- Signage for each bin
- Assistance in installation/best placement of the bins
- Information on available recycling centers/processors
- Pick-up and delivery of larger collection bins may be available
- Volunteers to help service containers during large, multi-day events may be available
- Tips for promotional pieces, newsletters, and programs that give the benefits of recycling

**GREEN Your Event! We Can Help.**  
**Recycling Hotline—864-1904**



[www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling)  
[www.OzarksEnvironment.com](http://www.OzarksEnvironment.com)

## Ozarks GreenScore Update



Ozarks GreenScore is for any organization that is interested in proactively protecting the environment, reducing operational costs and becoming a model for other organizations.

Ozarks GreenScore is not only a program to recognize businesses and organizations that are making a strong effort to reduce their environmental impacts, it is also a program to help those businesses and organizations achieve their environmental goals while saving money. The program includes resources from various environmental professionals in Southwest Missouri that can help your organization identify potential environmental improvements; assist in completing the scorecard and implement improvement projects at your facility. These professionals can provide assistance in the following areas:

- Energy efficiency
- Water conservation
- Carbon Footprint analysis
- Water quality protection
- Wastewater management
- Air quality protection
- Solid waste reduction/recycling
- Hazardous waste reduction/management
- Responsible building practices
- Low impact grounds maintenance
- Vehicle fleet maintenance
- Community involvement
- Stormwater management

The following businesses have completed the Ozarks GreenScore assessment and have been recognized at a level according to their score:

**Green Level Members:** BKD CPA's and Advisors

**Silver Level Members:** Discovery Center, Global Fayre, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, and Drury University

**Bronze Level Members:** DeWitt & Associates, Inc., Stamina Products, Inc., and Greenstay Hotel and Suites

To find out more about Ozarks GreenScore and how to get started in the program, log on to:

[www.OzarksGreenScore.com](http://www.OzarksGreenScore.com)

Springfield-Greene County Choose Environmental Excellence—417-864-2006  
P.O. Box 8368—Springfield—MO—65801—[www.OzarksEnvironment.com](http://www.OzarksEnvironment.com)

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## Ozarks Transportation Organization Update



Drury University has agreed to develop an employee and student portal with OzarksCommute.com. Ozarks Transportation Organization staff promoted the OzarksCommute.com website at the St. John's Energy Fair as well as the Ozarks New Energy Conference. Natasha Longpine was selected to be the Vice-Chair of the Ozarks Clean Air Alliance. Ozarks Transportation Organization partnered with the City of Springfield to produce the Transportation Chapter of the Strategic Plan, which included promotion of multi-modal options throughout the region. Ozarks Transportation Organization is also a partner involved with the City Utilities Electric Vehicle Plug-In Readiness Task Force. For more information regarding Ozarks Transportation Organization or OzarksCommute.com, log onto:

[www.ozarkstransportation.org](http://www.ozarkstransportation.org)

## Clean Diesel Grant Funding Available



The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received grant funding from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct Clean Diesel grant projects throughout the state of Missouri. In order to serve southwest Missouri, DNR awarded OCSS a grant agreement to oversee and fund Clean Diesel projects in the following counties: Cedar, Polk, Dallas, Barton, Dade, Greene, Webster, Christian, Jasper, Newton, McDonald, Lawrence, Barry, Stone, and Taney.

Clean Diesel funding will cover emission control equipment, idle reduction/SmartWay technologies, fuel conversion kits, engine repowers, alternative fuels, and vehicle replacements. Private and public diesel fleet owners in the above-mentioned counties may apply for Clean Diesel project funding through the Request-for-Proposals (RFP) process. There will be two separate funding categories: one for retrofits, repowers and alternative fuels and one for vehicle replacements. Applications should be submitted to OCSS by 5 pm (Central) on February 1, 2011. For more information, contact Doug Neidigh at 417-873-7641.

## Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center



The new Botanical Center opened October 11-17, 2010. The center is located at the Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park, 2400 S. Scenic, in Springfield and. The Botanical Center has been established for enhancing people's lives through plant demonstrations and education. The Gardens at the Botanical Center are a resource for leisure, teaching, and public service missions of University of Missouri Extension. The Botanical Center is owned, operated and maintained by the Springfield-Greene County Park Board.

The 114 acre site includes: The Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens, the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden, the Dr. Bill Roston Native Butterfly House, the Gray-Campbell Farmstead, dozens of specialty gardens made possible by The Friends of the Gardens, The Springfield Host Lions Club History Walk, The Federated Garden Club Perennial Garden, The NatureGrounds® demonstration play ground, and provides access to the South Creek Greenway Trail.

The Botanical Center plans to have exhibits including the history of horticulture, edible gardens, and much, much more. The building was designed to qualify for Silver Level LEED Certification. Some examples include: geo-thermal ground source heat pump systems utilized for both heating and cooling, LED parking lot light fixtures, low water use plumbing fixtures, solar orientation, the use of locally available materials, and much more. Funding for the project came from the City of Springfield's 1/4 cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax, private donations and Greene County. For more information, log onto:

[www.botanicalcenter.org](http://www.botanicalcenter.org)



## Drury University's O'Reilly Family Events Center



Drury's O'Reilly Family Event Center officially opened on Saturday, Oct. 30 with the cut of a giant red ribbon by Rosalie O'Reilly Wooten.

The ribbon cutting and building dedication marked a culmination of a month-long celebration of the opening of the new arena on the Drury University campus. Construction began on the O'Reilly Family Event Center in May 2009. Fundraising for the 3,100-seat event center began in December of 2007 with a \$6 million naming gift from the O'Reilly family of Springfield.

In addition to serving as one of the best facilities in the nation for athletics and the potential future home of both Great Lakes Valley Conference and NCAA championship events, it provides Drury University with a crown jewel in the center of its campus and a home for a variety of events involving the student body population, from concerts to graduations to meeting and dining space in the plush new banquet area inside the building. A large area outside will provide students a popular gathering place before and after events as well.

Myra Miller is the Director of the O'Reilly Family Event Center and can be reached at (417) 873-6381 or at [mmiller1@drury.edu](mailto:mmiller1@drury.edu).

Tickets for all events at the arena can be purchased at [www.drurytickets.com](http://www.drurytickets.com).



Article and pictures provided by Drury Panthers website.



## The Valley Water Mill Park Equestrian Center is now Open



*"Valley Water Mill Park Equestrian Center is a cooperative project between the Springfield-Greene County Park Board and the surrounding equine community. A premier equestrian center for the citizens of Springfield-Greene County and the surrounding communities."*—Springfield-Greene County Park Board

The new Equestrian Center at Valley Water Mill Park opened Friday, July 9, 2010, with a weekend full of activities. This new facility will provide a place for members of the public to ride their own horses, participate in educational activities, field trip opportunities, and more programs to be developed. The Center will have many green features, including, but not limited to, rain water harvesting through rain barrels. They have partnered with the Sheriff's Mounted Posse of Greene County to provide an Enforcement Division to cover trails, provide and promote horsemanship/fellowship through clinics, charity events, trail rides, activities and more. The Center will also become the new home for the D.A.R.E. program in this partnership. They are currently working with Greater Ozarks Audubon Society on tree identification for the trails as well.

Events expected to take place at the new facility include: Harvest Fest, 2010, Boy Scouts 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Bass Pro Shops Outdoor Fitness Festival, 2010, monthly Citizen's Appreciation Days and more. For more information, log onto:

[www.parkboard.org](http://www.parkboard.org)



Springfield-Greene County Choose Environmental Excellence—417-864-2006  
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